Anticipatory Actions to cope with expected drought in Madagascar’s Bekily (Androy), Betroka and Amboasary Atsimo (Anosy) districts

Objective
Mitigate the impact of forecast drought on vulnerable farmers, and improve the food security and nutrition of at-risk communities.

Activities implemented
- Provided 500 vulnerable households in all three districts, of whom at least 60 percent headed by women, each with four goats or sheep (three females and one male), feed, dewormers, vitamins and capacity building in climate-smart small livestock production.
- Provided 1,000 households in all three districts each with 8 kg of bean, 10 kg of groundnut and 8 kg of millet seeds along with capacity building on climate-smart and nutrition sensitive agriculture.
- Provided 1,000 households each with about 50 g of various types of vegetable seeds, as well as capacity building climate-smart and nutrition sensitive agriculture, and a cash transfer of MGA 100,000 (USD 25) within the framework of cash+ activities.
- Provided 1,500 vulnerable households each with eight improved breed chicks (Kuroiler) and capacity building in poultry production.
Results

• Enabled households to cope with the effects of drought and produce a total of about 1,821 tonnes of different types of food valued at approximately USD 766,110 thanks to the planting material provided; households appreciated in particular the good productivity of millet, which is more tolerant to water deficit compared with other crops they were used to growing. This encouraged farmers to keep part of their harvest as seeds for the next agricultural season.

• Enabled households to cover food and other basic needs before harvests thanks to the unconditional cash transfers provided.

• Strengthened vulnerable communities’ livelihoods, food security and nutrition.